

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1 and 4-9 are pending in the instant application. Claims 2-3 and 10-15 have been canceled.

Response to RCE

Receipt is acknowledged of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) and a submission, filed on 3/3/2008. The submission, amendment to the claims and response are responsive to the final office action mailed on 11/30/2007. The rejections and objections made in the previous office action are withdrawn in view of the amendment to the claims.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS), filed on 03/3/2008 has been considered. Please refer to Applicant's copy of the 1449 submitted herewith.

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Julie Lake on 04/10/08.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 6, page 3, last line, **delete** "salts" and **insert** ---salt--- after the word acceptable.

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In claim 6, page 3, last line, **delete** "mixtures" and **insert** ---mixture--- before the word thereof.

In claim 7, page 4, last line, **delete** "salts" and **insert** ---salt--- after the word acceptable.

In claim 7, page 4, last line, **delete** "mixtures" and **insert** ---mixture--- before the word thereof.

In claim 8, page 4, last line, **delete** "salts" and **insert** ---salt--- after the word acceptable.

In claim 8, page 4, last line, **delete** "mixtures" and **insert** ---mixture--- before the word thereof.

Reasons for Allowance

The present invention is directed to sulfonamide compounds of formula (1). The closest prior art of record is U.S. PAT 5,712,300 (Jacobson et al), which teaches a similar class of compounds, except at the R position. Jacobson teaches wherein R is a lactam ring, while in the instant application R cannot be a lactam ring.

Telephone Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susannah Chung whose telephone number is (571) 272-6098. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph McKane can be reached on (571) 272-0699. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

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may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Golam M. M. Shameem, Ph.D./
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1626

SLC, 4/10/2008